

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A water-erodible pharmaceutical carrier device comprising a layered flexible film having a first water-erodible adhesive layer to be placed in contact with a mucosal surface, a second, water-erodible non-adhesive backing layer, and a pharmaceutical incorporated with said first layer, said second layer, or both layers, wherein said first water-erodible adhesive layer comprises a water-erodible film-forming polymer and a bioadhesive polymer, and is free of a plasticizer, and wherein said second water-erodible non-adhesive backing layer comprises hydroxyethyl cellulose.
2. (Original) The pharmaceutical carrier device of claim 1, wherein said first water-erodible layer comprises an alkyl cellulose or hydroxyalkyl cellulose and a bioadhesive polymer.
3. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical carrier device of claim 1, wherein said first water-erodible adhesive layer comprises a water-erodible film forming polymer selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl methyl cellulose, polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene glycol, polyethylene oxide, ethylene oxide-propylene oxide co-polymers, collagen, gelatin, albumin, polyaminoacids, polyphosphazenes, polysaccharides, chitin, and chitosan, alone or in combination, and a bioadhesive polymer selected from the group consisting of polyacrylic acid, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, and sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, alone or in combination.
4. (Canceled).
5. (Original) The pharmaceutical device of claim 1, wherein a pharmaceutical is incorporated with said first water-erodible adhesive layer.
6. (Original) The pharmaceutical device of claim 1, wherein said layered film has two layers and a total thickness of from 0.1 mm to 1 mm.

7. (Original) The pharmaceutical device of claim 1 which further comprises a third layer between said first adhesive layer and said second backing layer and wherein said third layer is a water-erodible, adhesive layer which has a surface area sufficient to encompass said first adhesive layer and contact the mucosal surface.

8. (Original) The pharmaceutical device of claim 7, wherein a pharmaceutical is incorporated with said first adhesive layer.

9. (Original) The pharmaceutical device of claim 1, wherein one or more of the layers further comprises a component which acts to adjust the kinetics of the erodability of the device.

10. (Currently Amended) A water-erodible pharmaceutical carrier device comprising a layered flexible film having a first water-erodible adhesive layer to be placed in contact with a mucosal surface, a second, water-erodible non-adhesive backing layer, and a pharmaceutical incorporated with said first layer, said second layer, or both layers, wherein said first water-erodible adhesive layer comprises a water-erodible film-forming polymer and a water-erodible bioadhesive polymer, and is free of a plasticizer, wherein said second water-erodible non-adhesive backing layer comprises hydroxyethyl cellulose, and wherein one or more of the layers further comprises a component which acts to adjust the kinetics of the erodability of the device, wherein the component is a water-based emulsion of polylactide, polyglycolide, lactide-glycolide copolymers, poly-e-caprolactone, polyorthoesters, polyanhydrides, ethyl cellulose, vinyl acetate, cellulose acetate, or polyisobutylene, alone or in combination.

11. (Canceled).

12. (Original) The pharmaceutical device of claim 7, wherein one or more of the layers further comprises a component which acts to adjust the kinetics of the erodability of the device.

13. (Currently Amended) A water-erodible pharmaceutical carrier device comprising a layered flexible film having a first water-erodible adhesive layer to be placed in contact with a mucosal surface, a second, water-erodible non-adhesive backing layer, and a pharmaceutical incorporated with said first layer, said second layer, or both layers, a third layer between said first adhesive layer and said second backing layer, wherein said first water-erodible adhesive layer comprises a water-erodible film-forming polymer and a bioadhesive polymer, and is free of a plasticizer, wherein said second water-erodible non-adhesive backing layer comprises hydroxyethyl cellulose, wherein said third layer is a water-erodible, adhesive layer which has a surface area sufficient to encompass said first adhesive layer and contact the mucosal surface, wherein one or more of the layers further comprises a component which acts to adjust the kinetics of the erodability of the device, wherein the component is a water-based emulsion of polylactide, polyglycolide, lactide-glycolide copolymers, poly-e-caprolactone, polyorthoesters, polyanhydrides, ethyl cellulose, vinyl acetate, cellulose acetate, or polyisobutylene, alone or in combination.

14. (Canceled).

15. (Original) The pharmaceutical device of claim 1, wherein said pharmaceutical incorporated within said first layer, said second layer, or both layers comprises an anti-inflammatory analgesic agent, a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent, an antihistamine, a local anesthetic, a bactericide, a disinfectant, a vasoconstrictor, a hemostatic, a chemotherapeutic drug, an antibiotic, a keratolytic, a cauterizing agent, an antiviral, an antirheumatic, an antihypertensive, a bronchodilator, an anticholinergic, an antiemetic, a hormone, a macromolecule, a peptide, a protein, or a vaccine alone or in combination.

16. (Currently Amended) A water-erodible pharmaceutical carrier device comprising a layered flexible film having a first water-erodible adhesive layer to be placed in contact with a mucosal surface, a second, water-erodible non-adhesive backing layer, and a pharmaceutical incorporated with said first layer, said second layer, or both layers, wherein said first water-erodible adhesive layer comprises a water-erodible film-forming polymer and a water-erodible bioadhesive polymer, is free of a plasticizer and comprises hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, polyacrylic acid, and sodium carboxymethyl cellulose; said second water-erodible non-adhesive backing layer comprises hydroxyethyl cellulose and hydroxypropyl cellulose; and wherein said pharmaceutical comprises dyclonine HCl.

17. (Previously Presented) A water-erodible layered flexible film disk which adheres to mucosal surfaces for the localized delivery of a pharmaceutical, comprising a first water-erodible adhesive layer and a second, water-erodible non-adhesive backing layer, wherein said pharmaceutical or combination of pharmaceuticals is incorporated with said first adhesive layer, or said second non-adhesive backing layer, or both said first adhesive layer and said second non-adhesive backing layer, and wherein said first water-erodible adhesive layer comprises a water-erodible film-forming polymer and a water-erodible bioadhesive polymer, and is free of a plasticizer, and wherein said second water-erodible non-adhesive backing layer comprises hydroxyethyl cellulose, said layered flexible film having a total thickness of from 0.1 mm to 1 mm.

18. (Original) The layered film disk of claim 17, wherein said pharmaceutical or combination of pharmaceuticals comprises an anti-inflammatory analgesic agent, a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent, an antihistamine, a local anesthetic, a bactericide, a disinfectant, a vasoconstrictor, a hemostatic, a chemotherapeutic drug, an antibiotic, a keratolytic, a cauterizing agent, an antiviral, an antirheumatic, an antihypertensive, a bronchodilator, an anticholinergic, an antiemetic, a hormone, a macromolecule, a peptide, a protein, or a vaccine, alone or in combination.

19-32. (Canceled).

33. (Currently Amended) A water-erodible pharmaceutical carrier device comprising a layered flexible film having a first water-erodible adhesive layer to be placed in contact with a mucosal surface, a second, water-erodible non-adhesive backing layer, and a pharmaceutical incorporated with said first layer, said second layer, or both layers, wherein said first water-erodible adhesive layer comprises a water-erodible film-forming polymer and a water-erodible bioadhesive polymer, and is free of a plasticizer, and wherein said second water-erodible non-adhesive backing layer comprises hydroxyethyl cellulose and wherein the carrier device has a solvent content of from about 1 to about 15 % by weight.

34. (Currently Amended) A water-erodible layered flexible film that adheres to mucosal surfaces for the delivery of a flavoring agent to the oral cavity comprising a first water-soluble adhesive layer and a second water-soluble-non-adhesive backing layer, wherein said first water-soluble-adhesive layer comprises a film-forming polymer and a bioadhesive polymer and is free of a plasticizer, and said second water-erodible ~~water-soluble~~ non-adhesive backing layer comprises hydroxyethyl cellulose, and wherein said flavoring agent is incorporated with said first water-soluble adhesive layer, with said second water-erodible ~~water-soluble~~ non-adhesive backing layer, or with both said layers.